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FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8194  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 0068  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 0128  
INFO RUCNCOM/EC CARICOM COLLECTIVE

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 000480

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STATE FOR IO/RHS, DRL/MLGA, EUR/PGI, WHA/CAR

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/11/2017

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNHRC](#) [TD](#)

SUBJECT: GOTT UNHCR VOTE

REF: A. SECSTATE 63345

[1](#)B. SECSTATE 58036

Classified By: DCM Eugene P. Sweeney for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Embassy Port of Spain has delivered the reftel b demarche to the T&T MFA on the UNHRC candidacy of Belarus. We have also confirmed that our British, French, and Canadian counterparts have delivered similar though separate demarches this week. The GOTT very rarely advises of how they will vote in these types of elections and this time is not an exception. They have not indicated their intentions to any of us. The Canadian High Commissioner reported to us, however, that MFA Permanent Secretary Edwina Leacock appeared sympathetic to the argument that Belarus does not deserve election to the Council, though she could not commit to expressing how T&T would vote.  
AUSTIN